

1 SJR84
2 112231-2
3 By Senator Coleman
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 26-MAR-09

1 SJR84

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4 ENROLLED, SJR84,

5 CREATING THE LONG TERM CARE REBALANCING ADVISORY
6 COMMITTEE.

7
8 WHEREAS, Alabama has a long term care system
9 consisting of high quality caring and compassionate providers
10 in nursing homes, home health agencies, hospices, and personal
11 care services; and

12 WHEREAS, the current long term care system for the
13 elderly and disabled is fragmented, with access to the various
14 forms of long term care services scattered across different
15 points of entry, with little coordination among services,
16 making it difficult for persons needing care, and their family
17 members, to understand their options, make informed decisions,
18 and access services in a timely manner; and

19 WHEREAS, aging is not a disease, but a natural
20 process that is often accompanied by an increasing need of
21 assistance with daily living activities, and this state
22 recognizes that elderly and disabled persons are more likely
23 to experience chronic medical conditions requiring
24 preventative, acute, and chronic health care services that
25 promote healthy living and improve quality of life; and

1 WHEREAS, the critical role that family members and
2 other caregivers play in satisfying the needs of the elderly
3 and disabled is highly valued by this state, in which 536,000
4 residents were age 65 to 85 years and 79,000 residents were
5 over age 85 in 2008, with those numbers increasing steadily;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, a continuum of long term care approach
8 recognizes the importance of all aspects of long term care
9 including, but not limited to, prevention, outreach, intake
10 and assessment, emergency shelter, transitional programs,
11 supportive housing, permanent housing, and all other
12 appropriate support services; and

13 WHEREAS, the basic definition of a continuum of care
14 is a comprehensive array of health care and related services
15 designed to meet the continuing long term care needs of an
16 individual in the most appropriate, least restrictive, and
17 cost effective environment; now therefore,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
19 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Long Term Care Rebalancing
20 Advisory Committee is created for the purpose of providing
21 recommendations and advice to the Governor, the Legislature,
22 and the Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency regarding
23 the establishment and implementation of a long term care
24 system, a continuum of care, in Alabama which enables the
25 elderly, the disabled, and people with fragile health to live

1 at the most appropriate level of care given their medical
 2 needs and social and family support systems. The committee
 3 shall make a comprehensive and continuous study of the
 4 development, planning, and management of the long term care
 5 system in the state and make recommendations for legislation
 6 and administrative initiatives necessary to provide the
 7 institutional and regulatory changes to accomplish the overall
 8 goals and objectives of providing an efficient continuum of
 9 care long term care system. The committee shall submit its
 10 recommendations by the tenth legislative day of the 2010
 11 Regular Session and each regular session thereafter.

12 The committee shall be composed of the following
 13 members:

14 (1) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency,
 15 who shall serve as chair.

16 (2) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
 17 Senior Services, or his or her designee.

18 (3) The Commissioner of the Department of
 19 Rehabilitation Services, or his or her designee.

20 (4) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental
 21 Health and Mental Retardation, or his or her designee.

22 (5) The Commissioner of the State Department of
 23 Human Resources, or his or her designee.

24 (6) The State Health Officer, or his or her
 25 designee.

1 (7) A representative of the Governor's Office on
2 Disability, appointed by the Governor.

3 (8) The Chair of the Senate Committee on Health, or
4 his or her designee.

5 (9) The Chair of the House Committee on Health, or
6 his or her designee.

7 (10) A representative of the office of the Governor,
8 appointed by the Governor.

9 (11) A representative of the Independent Living
10 Centers of Alabama, as selected by the centers.

11 (12) A representative of the Alabama Nursing Home
12 Association, as selected by the members of the association.

13 (13) A representative of the Assisted Living
14 Association of Alabama, as selected by the members of the
15 association.

16 (14) A representative of the Alabama Hospital
17 Association, as selected by the members of the association.

18 (15) A representative of the Home Care Association
19 of Alabama, as selected by the members of the association.

20 (16) A representative of AARP, Alabama, as selected
21 by the members of the association.

22 (17) A representative of the Alabama Lifespan
23 Respite Resource Network, as selected by the members of the
24 network.

1 (18) A representative of the Alabama Hospice
2 Organization, as selected by the members of the organization.

3 (19) Four members of the public, who are consumers
4 or advocates of long term care, as appointed by the Governor.

5 (20) Two members of the public, who are consumers or
6 advocates of long term care, as appointed by the Lieutenant
7 Governor.

8 (21) Two members of the public, who are consumers or
9 advocates of long term care, as appointed by the Speaker.

10 The membership of the committee shall reflect the
11 racial, ethnic, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic
12 diversity of the state. All appointments to the committee
13 shall be made in writing and filed with the Clerk of the House
14 of Representatives no later than 45 days following the date of
15 enactment of this resolution. The chair shall set the date of
16 the organizational meeting of the committee, no later than 60
17 days following the conclusion of the 2009 Regular Session of
18 the Legislature, and at that meeting the vice chair of the
19 committee shall be elected by a majority vote from among the
20 committee members. The vice chair shall serve as acting chair
21 in the absence or incapacity of the chair. The committee shall
22 meet monthly for the first three months after creation, every
23 other month thereafter during the planning phases of the
24 objectives of the legislation, and thereafter at the call of
25 the chair or any majority of the members thereof at least once

1 each four months. The committee shall have a continuing
2 existence and may meet, act, and conduct its business at any
3 place within this state.

4 The committee may create and appoint members to
5 advisory subcommittees, which may include members of the
6 committee, representatives from state and local governmental
7 agencies, representatives from interested private companies
8 and nonprofit organizations, and other members of the public
9 with interest and expertise in the objectives of the
10 committee. Each advisory subcommittee shall be chaired by a
11 member of the advisory committee who shall be elected by the
12 members of the advisory subcommittee. The advisory
13 subcommittees may encompass each of the following areas: Needs
14 assessment and services; resource development and
15 coordination; single point of entry; legislative matters; and
16 economic impact. Each subcommittee shall submit a written
17 report of activities and recommendations to the committee for
18 inclusion in the annual report to the Legislature.

19 The committee shall continue through the current
20 quadrennium of the Alabama Legislature and may meet, act, and
21 conduct its business at any place within this state during the
22 sessions of the Legislature or any recess thereof, and in the
23 interim period between sessions. The committee shall report
24 its findings, conclusions, and recommendations concurrently to
25 the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than the

tenth legislative day of the 2010 Regular Session, at which time the committee shall stand dissolved.

Upon request of the chair of the committee, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate shall provide necessary clerical assistance for the work of the committee. Each nonlegislative member of the committee may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the committee as authorized for state officers in the service of the state as provided in Article 2, commencing with Section 36-7-20, Chapter 7, Title 36, Code of Alabama 1975. Upon requisition signed by the chair or vice chair of the committee, these payments shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the House of Representatives or Senate by means of warrants drawn by the Comptroller on the State Treasury.

Legislative members of the committee shall be entitled to regular legislative compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day in attendance at a meeting of the committee, which shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the Legislature, upon warrants drawn on the Comptroller upon requisitions signed by the chair of the committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no legislative member shall receive additional legislative compensation or per diem when the Legislature is in session or if a member is being paid any other payments on the same dates for attendance

1 of other state business. The total expenditures of the
2 Legislature for committee business shall not exceed ten
3 thousand dollars (\$10,000).

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR84
Senate 23-APR-09
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and adopted
the Senate, as amended.

McDowell Lee
Secretary

House of Representatives
Amended and adopted 15-MAY-09

Senate concurred in House amendment 15-MAY-09

By: Senator Coleman